

I have told us that letters are frequently sent to you by extremists who make that charge. How do you answer them, very briefly what do you say?

S: Most of these letters are anonymous letters. They can't be answered, they aren't meant to be answered.

W: One last quick question, do you believe that when all the facts become known to those like yourself who still feel justice was not served that they'll then agree with Judge KAUFMAN who said when passing sentence "It's not in my power to forgive you, only the Lord can find mercy for what you have done"?

S: I believe that this applies more to what was done to my husband and to ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG. I think that only the Lord will find mercy for what has been done to them.

W: Thank you for coming on "Nightbeat". When the ROSENBERGS were sentenced to their death and MORTON SOBELL to 30 years in Alcatraz, most of the world was convinced and indeed still are that traitors had been apprehended, and that a danger to our security had been removed. To a skeptical minority the sentences were what they've termed a monstrous injustice. HELEN SOBELL, as MORTON SOBELL's wife, is one of this minority. She has put her cause now to establish what she calls my husband's complete and utter innocence. Next week the Supreme Court of the United States is expected to rule on the SOBELL appeal to determine if he was properly convicted.

On March 6, 1957, T-1 advised that HELEN SOBELL spoke at a meeting of the Los Angeles Sobell

NY 100-109849

Committee on Friday, February 22, 1957, which was held at the Embassy Auditorium, Ninth and Grand Streets, Los Angeles, California. On this occasion, she read a letter from her husband MORTON SOBELL thanking the people for their help in his behalf.

T-1 advised on March 6, 1957, that HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting of the Los Angeles Sobell Committee on February 28, 1957, at 903 North Hariposa Avenue, Los Angeles, California, and showed a documentary film to the group entitled, "Was Justice Done?"

On April 11, 1957, T-2 advised that on April 10, 1957, HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting of the Lower East Side Committee To Secure Justice For Morton Sobell at 189 Second Avenue, New York, New York. Mrs. SOBELL spoke about her husband's case, stressed the need for funds, and described conditions at Alcatraz. She also discussed incidents surrounding the arrest of MORTON SOBELL and encouraged each of those in attendance at the meeting to help in the fight for justice for her husband.

On April 30, 1957, T-3 advised that HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting at 8321 Tahona Drive, Silver Springs, Maryland, where she again discussed her husband's case. At the meeting a four page mimeographed "Appeal to the President", which was to be filled out and sent to EISENHOWER requesting him to exercise executive clemency on behalf of her husband.

On June 3, 1957, T-4 advised that on May 26, 1957, the Committee To Secure Justice For Morton Sobell sponsored a boat ride to Bear Mountain, New York, from New York City. This informant indicated

NY 100-109849

that a documentary film, "Was Justice Done?" was shown aboard Hudson River Day Line, and Mrs. HELEN SOBELL addressed the group and thanked them for their help.

On June 7, 1957, T-5 advised that the subject attended a social on June 2, 1957, at 116 University Place, New York, New York, arising out of the National Socialist Workers Party Convention held in New York City from May 31 to June 2, 1957.

On April 17, 1957, T-6 advised that the subject attended a meeting of the Lower East Side Committee To Secure Justice For Morton Sobell at 189 Second Avenue, New York, New York, on April 10, 1957, at which time HELEN SOBELL analyzed for the group the thinking behind the accusations leveled against her husband by the prosecution. A film entitled, "Was Justice Done?" was also shown to the group, and thereafter Mrs. SOBELL emphasized the need for additional funds to aid in the fight to free her husband.

On June 10, 1957, T-7 advised that on June 7, 1957, HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party at 205 South 13th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mrs. SOBELL discussed her husband's kidnapping from Mexico, present conditions at Alcatraz and appealed for help.

The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On August 7, 1957, T-8 advised that HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting of the Isabel Gonzalez Community Club of the Communist Party at 815 Minnesota Street, Los Angeles, California, on August 1, 1957.

At this meeting HELEN SOBELL said that she had left New York on July 6, 1957, and had in the interim been to Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco, Sacramento, Fresno and Denver.

NY 100-109849

Mrs. SOBELL also indicated that she had talked to the editor of the "Denver Post" and that the "Post" supported her in her present campaign to free her husband. She also said that the Fisherman's Union in Seattle welcomed her as did the warehousemen in Fresno, California.

Mrs. SOBELL also said that MORTON SOBELL never took the witness stand during his trial because if he had invoked the 5th Amendment, it would have reflected unfavorably upon him because of the hysteria of the times, and on the other hand not to have invoked it would have reflected unfavorably upon JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, who had

On August 1, 1957, T-9 and T-10 advised that on July 29, 1957, Mrs. HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting of the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees held at 1418 Brown Avenue, Fresno, California, where Mrs. SOBELL again discussed the arrest, trial, and present incarceration of her husband, MORTON SOBELL. At this time, she made a plea for \$10,000 to carry on the case and prove her husband's innocence.

T-1 advised on August 12, 1957, that on August 6, 1957, HELEN SOBELL attended a Steering Committee meeting of the Los Angeles Sobell Committee at 468 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, at which time a discussion was had concerning the amicus curiae brief, which was to be filed with the United States Supreme Court in connection with her husband's appeal.

On August 14, 1957, T-11 advised that HELEN SOBELL was a guest at a cocktail party in her

NY 100-109849

honor at 2112 Willington Avenue, Compton, California, on August 11, 1957. Again, at this party Mrs. SOBELL presented a resume of the pertinent facts surrounding her husband's arrest, trial and conviction. She also expressed hope for a retrial of this case.

On August 20, 1957, T-2 advised that on August 19, 1957, HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting of the New York City Sobell Committee held at 940 Broadway, New York, New York. At this time, she recounted her experiences on her recent trip to see her husband at Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary. She related that she departed New York July 6, 1957, and arrived at Denver, Colorado, in the evening. There she spoke at a gathering at the University of Colorado and was also interviewed by the editor of the Denver "Post". The editor promised HELEN SOBELL that the paper would support the SOBELL plan whenever possible. Mrs. SOBELL also said that in Denver she met several people connected with the American Civil Liberties Union. From there, she journeyed to San Francisco and spoke at several meetings there as well as at Stockton, Fresno and the Bay Area around San Francisco. Mrs. SOBELL stated that the reception was good on all occasions, and that friends in San Francisco had promised to raise at least \$3,000 for the SOBELL office and \$3,000 for their local activities.

According to Mrs. SOBELL, she also journeyed to Vancouver, British Columbia, where she spoke at a few meetings. The American Civil Liberties Union was preparing a brief to be disseminated throughout Canada on behalf of MORTON SOBELL. In Seattle, Washington, according to the subject, she appeared on two television programs and one radio show.

NY 100-109849

On October 21, 1957, T-12 advised that the subject attended a meeting sponsored by the Chicago Sobell Committee at 1357 East Madison Park, Chicago, Illinois, on September 20, 1957, where she again spoke on the problem of her husband's arrest, conviction and appeal for the United States Supreme Court.

On September 30, 1957, T-13 advised that HELEN SOBELL attended a meeting sponsored by the Chicago Sobell Committee at 5010 West Jarlath Avenue in Skokie, Illinois, on September 21, 1957, where she again spoke on her husband's efforts to obtain freedom.

On December 24, 1957, T-14 advised that on December 17, 1957, HELEN SOBELL's mother-in-law, ROSE SOBELL, attended a meeting at 117 Brooks Avenue, Ocean Parkway, California, where she discussed the plight of her son, MORTON SOBELL, and of the work that her daughter-in-law, HELEN, had spoken before many groups and of the support they are winning from the various meetings they appear at.

On January 10, 1958, T-1 advised that on December 28, 1957, at 1283 South Redondo Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, HELEN SOBELL appeared and spoke of her visit to various cities throughout the United States in connection with the MORTON SOBELL case and of how the various committees throughout the country are functioning.

On January 21, 1958, T-2 advised of a welcome home party for HELEN SOBELL on January 17, 1958, held at 940 Broadway, New York, New York. Mrs. SOBELL spoke of her recent trip to San Francisco to see her husband.

AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF

The "National Guardian" of August 5, 1957, on page four, carries a news item relating to the case of MORTON SOBELL, which bears the caption, "Based On Recent Court Decisions Hope Is High For Sobell Review".

This article describes the trial of MORTON SOBELL, as well as his arrest and conviction. It also describes the progress made in connection with the various appeals to the United States Supreme Court, and points out an amicus curiae brief would accompany MORTON SOBELL's third appeal to the United States Supreme Court since his conviction in 1951. A copy of this brief appears as an advertisement along with this story.

This advertisement and brief reads as follows:

"YOU CAN HELP TAKE THE SOBELL CASE TO THE SUPREME COURT."

"By signing the Amicus Brief below, you inform the U.S. Supreme Court of the deep interest that you share with many thousands of Americans in seeing justice done for Morton Sobell."

"By giving a financial contribution with your signature, you provide the necessary funds for carrying Sobell's appeal to the Supreme Court."

"Will you act now--for Sobell--for Justice--for America?"

67d

639

100-44713-1A-23

U.S. SUPREME COURT ACTION IN MORTON SOBELL'S APPEALS

The New York Times, in its issue of November 13, 1957, at Page 16, Column 3, reports in a news item captioned: "High Court Bars 8th Sobell Plea" that on October 28, 1957 the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a SOBELL petition asking that the tribunal reverse itself and grant a review of his conviction.

The same news item reports that on November 12, 1957 MORTON SOBELL lost two more appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court from his thirty-year sentence for wartime espionage. The court refused to act on allegations by SOBELL that he had been kidnapped by United States agents and illegally brought back to face espionage charges, and that his conviction was "steeped in fraud and tainted by false and perjured evidence."

The item continues by reporting that this was the eighth time applications on SOBELL's behalf had been turned down. The court disposed of SOBELL's appeals in a brief order that noted only that the justices would not act on them.

The story also indicates that the tribunal did permit the filing of a "friend of the court" brief urging a review of SOBELL's case.

"The New York Times" in its issue of January 7, 1958, at Page 30, reports that "Sobell Loses 9th Plea". The story states that the U.S. Supreme Court rejected on January 6, 1958 another effort by MORTON SOBELL to win a review of his conviction.

This story discloses that SOBELL had petitioned the high tribunal to reconsider its November 12 refusal to hear his case. The petition was denied without comment, making it the ninth time applications on SOBELL's behalf had been turned down by the U.S. Supreme Court.

APPENDIX

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", dated January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following:

"NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL IN THE ROSENBERG CASE"

Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell, the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case--a Communist front which has been conducting the campaign in the United States--was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case. National headquarters remained at 1050 6th Avenue, New York City. Co-chairmen of the newest organization were Daniel Marshall and Joseph Brainin.

(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell', August 25, 1956, pp. 118 and 120; also cited in Annual Report for 1955, House Report 1648, January 17, 1956, originally released January 11, 1956, p. 30.)"

APPENDIX

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian

- "1. 'Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p. 12.)"

- C -

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 51 DATE 2-28-58

CONSISTING OF 7 PAGES of which
page 2,3

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL 51 DATE 2-28-58
CONSISTING OF 7 PAGES *of which*
page 6 and copy

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety
under (b)(2) to the extent that the release
of this information would disclose matters
related solely to internal personnel rules
and practices.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-404849)

DATE: 2/28/58

SAC, NEW YORK (100-109849)

**SUBJECT: HELEN SOBELL, was
SM-C**

Enclosed herewith are four copies of the report of SA WILLIAM D. DONOHUE, dated and captioned as above, and four copies of a letterhead memorandum.

REFERENCE

Report of SA RICHARD T. HRADSKY, dated 3/20/57, at NY.

2-Bureau (100-464849) (Encl. 8); (RM)
3-New York (100-109849)

WDD: 1b

(5145)

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EX-136

76 MAR 10 1958

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18 MAR 3 1958

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11

NY 100-109849

ADMINISTRATIVE



b7E

This case is being placed in a closed status
at NY.

NY 100-109849

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
 2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
 3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
 4. ☒ A suitable photograph, ☒ is ☐ is not available.
 5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
 6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
- b2

8. ☐ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____

9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.

10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) _____

Subject actively engaged in campaign to free husband, MORTON SOBELL, through employment with the Sobell Committee and appearances at various meetings including those sponsored by SWP, CP Clubs.

5

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-404849)

DATE: 3/12/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-109849)

SUBJECT: HELEN SOBELL, was
SM-C

93466

Re O-17 dated 3/6/58, report of SA WILLIAM D. DONOHUE dated 2/28/58 at New York and letter to Director of same date, captioned as above.

Page 16, paragraph 1 of rerep: change 2/28/57 to read 2/27/57.

item 2, col. 2 of relet: change 12/1/58 to 12/1/57.

New York copies have been corrected.

Attached hereto are four copies of page 23a to be included in rerep.

Bureau (100-404849) (Encls-4) (RM)
NY 100-109849

NOT RECORDED

15 MAR 14 1958

DD:ent

11-1-58

ENCLOSURE
61 MAR 18 1958

SUBV

CONSOL

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL UNR DATE 8-8-58

CONSISTING OF 3 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number ~~XXXX~~.

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 53 DATE 8-19-58

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~XXXX~~.

Mr. Haack
Mr. McIlwain

9-10-58

Airtel

To: SAC, New York

From: Director, FBI (100-404849)

HELEN SOBELL
SECURITY MATTER - C

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject is included in the Security Index and is the wife of Morton Sobell, who is presently incarcerated as a result of conviction in the Rosenberg espionage case. (U)

MAILED 30
SEP 10 1958
COMM-FBI

REC-14

100-404849-54

Classified by 4842
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

SEP 11 1958

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Nease
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holloman

RPM:ef
(5)

EX-102

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-28-88 BY [signature]

SEP 15 1958

MAIL ROOM

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 55 DATE 9-9-58

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~XXXX~~.

Mr. Haack
Mr. Holloman

9-15-58

Airtel
100-404849-55

REC-67

To: SAC, New York
From: Director, FBI (100-404849)

HELEN SOBELL
SECURITY MATTER - C

ReBuairtel dated 9-10-58.

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject included in the Security Index and is the wife of Morton Sobell, who is presently incarcerated as a result of being convicted in the Rosenberg espionage case.

[REDACTED]

Classified by 197
Exempt from GDS Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

RPM:ef
(5)

MAILED 10
SEP 16 1958
COMM-FBI

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF
CLASSIFICATION

67 SEP 19 1958

DATE 6/3/78 BY [signature] 10/10/81

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holmes
- Miss Gandy

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 56 DATE 10-30-58

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES


is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number .

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 57 DATE 10-27-58

CONSISTING OF 20 PAGES


is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 58 DATE 10-30-58

CONSISTING OF 5 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 59 DATE 11-14-58

CONSISTING OF 5 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number [REDACTED]

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL UNR DATE 12-9-58
CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES *of which*
page 2

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety under (b)(2) to the extent that the release of this information would disclose matters related solely to internal personnel rules and practices.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MR. EAMES *E*

DATE: 12-9-58

FROM: *my*

MARIAN H. MCGRAW

SUBJECT:

STEVE ALLISON SHOW -
INTERVIEW WITH MRS. MORTON SOBELL,
12/8/58

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

This is to advise that the writer heard part of the Steve Allison Radio Show last night and that Allison interviewed Mrs. Morton Sobell, who made several remarks about the FBI and the Morton Sobell case. As you probably know, Allison has a local radio program which is broadcast nightly from the Peking Restaurant, 711 13th Street, Northwest, and is heard over Radio Station WNDX. It is an interview-type program devoted to controversial individuals and subjects.

I don't recall the details of the interview. But Mrs. Sobell made several statements to the effect that the FBI kidnapped her husband while he was on vacation in Mexico and brought him back to stand trial, that his lawyer advised him not to take the stand at the trial because of the hysteria arising from the Rosenberg case, that he made a big mistake in not testifying, and that she is determined to prove her husband's innocence. This is being submitted for the information of the Bureau.

1/1/59 11 11 11

SLVB:ph
(8)

7124
DEC 17 1958

NOT RECORDED
149 DEC 15 1958

404849-
12 DEC 11 1958
(Continued on page 2)

ORIGINAL FILE 7
PERS. FILES

Society Exacts Only Retribution Under Present Plan, Group Told

By James Carberry
STAFF REPORTER

A medical researcher suggested here yesterday that criminals under death sentences be allowed to sign their lives over to science for painless experiments.

The idea was presented at a criminology section meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Dr. Jack Kevorkian of Pontiac, Mich.

Kevorkian described his plan as a new method of execution in a paper called

"Capital Punishment or Capital Gain?"

As it stands now, Kevorkian said, society gains little from executing the criminal except to exact retribution. Under



"judicial euthanasia," he said, both the condemned and society would benefit.

He explained that at the time set for the execution, the condemned man would be anesthetized, never to regain consciousness. Scientists could then use the living body for research—for example, surgery to learn the workings of the human mind.

When the experiment was over—in a few hours, possibly several months—the human guinea pig would be put to death by an overdose of the anesthetic.

"It seems to me that to die under smoothly induced anesthesia is preferable to having bullets rip through the chest, experience the momentary choking or snapping of the neck, to experience the heat and the shock of an electrical charge or perhaps to experience the suffocating effect or convulsions induced by cyanide gas," he said.

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

File in Helen Smith 10-2
WFO-5
Kevorkian
Henderson
APK

Wash. Post and Times Herald *E7*
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Journal-American _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
N. Y. Times _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

REC-66

100-404849-A
NOT RECORDED
17 JAN 9 1959

EX-133

53 JAN 13 1959

DEC 28
Date _____

WRS
Shortly after Kevorkian began reading his paper, a neatly-dressed woman in green fainted and plished out of her chair. She later returned to her seat and after the discussion was ended identified herself as Helen Sobell, wife of Morton Sobell. Her husband is serving 30 years in Alcatraz prison for conspiring with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg to get U. S. atomic secrets for the Soviet Union. The Rosenbergs both died in the electric chair for their crime.

Mrs. Sobell told the group one harmful side-effect of capital punishment is that it inflicts undeserved suffering on the friends and relatives of the executed person.

Kevorkian, who describes himself as a free-lance researcher, read a letter from a man awaiting electrocution in the Ohio State prison. In it, the man said he would prefer being killed in an experiment to going to the electric chair.

On the other hand, Kevorkian said, "society would lose nothing and gain everything." He said thousands of animals are now destroyed in experiments to find out information about humans which might be disclosed in a single human brain operation.

Kevorkian, a crew-cut, 30-year-old physician, noted that many medical men have been compelled to risk their lives testing their own ideas on themselves.

"A single living human body would offer invaluable opportunities to study the effects of controversial drugs as well as hazards and techniques involved in new diagnostic and surgical procedures which men dare not try on any human body under any clinical circumstances," the doctor said.

<
<
Helen Sobell

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 60 DATE 1-27-59

CONSISTING OF 6 PAGES of which
page A, cover page 2, 3

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL 60 DATE 1-27-59
CONSISTING OF 6 PAGES *of which*
page 4

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety under (b)(2) to the extent that the release of this information would disclose matters related solely to internal personnel rules and practices.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Reporting Office
Washington Field | Office of Origin
New York | Date
1/27/59 | Investigative Period
1/23-25/59 |
| TITLE OF CASE
HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL, aka | | Report made by
CARROLL N. GARNETT | Typed By
fmk |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE
Security Matter-C | |

Administrative Details

Subject's passport file contains a refusal notice dated 8/24/56, as follows: "Well-known in Communists circles in Washington and wife of Morton Sobell, who has been named by Department of Justice as a conspirator in the Soviet atom bomb spy ring."

The aforementioned refusal notice is an administrative device utilized by the Passport Office and mention of same should not be disseminated outside the Bureau.

Reproductions of subject's passport photograph are being prepared and when completed will be sent to New York by routing slip.

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---|--------|
| Approved
<i>[Signature]</i> | Special Agent
in Charge | Do not write in spaces below | |
| Copies made:
① - Bureau (100-404849)
② - New York (100-109849) (RM)
③ - Washington Field (100-3074) | | 100-404849-60 | REC-50 |
| | | 24 JAN 29 1959 | EX-135 |
| | | SUBV. <i>[Signature]</i>
AGENCY <i>[Signature]</i>
REQ. REC'D 8-18-69
REP'T FORW. 8-29-69
BY <i>[Signature]</i> | |

SAC, New York (100-109849)

February 10, 1959

REC-58

Director, FBI (100-404849) -60

EX-133

HELEN SOBELL
SECURITY MATTER - C

Re Washington Field Office report of
SA Cornett dated 1-27-59.

According to rerep, the subject was
issued a passport on 11-24-58 and contemplated
travel in England, France, and Italy for
approximately one and one-half months.

You should promptly ascertain if
subject actually embarked on a trip abroad.
If so, furnish all pertinent information
regarding the purpose of this trip, her
plans and itinerary to the Bureau in form
suitable for dissemination.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject on Security Index. Wife of
Morton Sobell.

ODC: cin. Ruk

MAILED BY

FEB 10 1959

COMM-FBI

7 FEB 13 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

100-109849
FEB 11 1959
JL

FBI

Date: 2/13/59

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-404849)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-109849)

SUBJECT: HELEN SOBELL
SM-C

ReBulet, 2/10/59.

WFO is requested to place Lookout Notice with Central INS regarding subject so that the NYO will be advised if she leaves the US.. Subject was born 3/3/18, in Washington, D.C.; height 5'3"; weight 130 pounds; residence 30 Charlton St., NYC.

NYO will contact appropriate sources in an effort to determine any contemplated travel plans subject may have.

EX 105

- 2 - Bureau (100-404849) (RM)
- 2 - Washington Field (100-3074) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-109849)

FEB 14 1959

HBC:phg

(7)

52 FEB 19 1959

SUBV. CH

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

FBI

Date: 2/17/59

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Belmont ☒
Mr. DeLoach ☐
Mr. McGuire ☐
Mr. Mohr ☐
Mr. Parsons ☐
Mr. Rosen ☐
Mr. Tamm ☐
Mr. Trotter ☐
Mr. W.C. Sullivan ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Mr. Holloman ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-404849)

FROM SAC, WFO (100-3074)

HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL, aka
SM - C
(OO: NY)

Re New York airtel, 2/13/59, requesting that
lookout notices be placed with Central, INS, to determine
when subject leaves United States.

Contact with officials INS, Central Office,
on 2/17/59 by WFO determined that no departure control
record maintained by INS on U.S. citizens departing
U.S.

UACB, lead set forth in re airtel not being
covered since no productive information could result.
RUC.

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - New York (100-109849) RM
- 1 - WFO

CMG:MM
(6)

REC-8

23 FEB 19 1959

EX-135

68 FEB 20 1959

AIRTEL

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M Per _____

Q. O. Wick

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL 62 DATE 3-9-59
CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety under (b)(2) to the extent that the release of this information would disclose matters related solely to internal personnel rules and practices.

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 63 DATE 4-29-59

CONSISTING OF 25 PAGES *7 of which*
pages A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number

*W/H also by CIA letter dated 5/31/79
located in CIA referral p# 33 on (X) (J) (1)
E. Glenn*

FILE #

100-404849

SUBJECT

HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL

63

DATE

4-29-59

CONSISTING OF

25

PAGES

of which

for I.J.A. 3.8

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL 63 DATE 4-29-59
CONSISTING OF 25 PAGES of which
page 13

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety
under (b)(2) to the extent that the release
of this information would disclose matters
related solely to internal personnel rules
and practices.

SECRET
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Reporting Office
NEW YORK | Office of Origin
NEW YORK | Date
4/2/59 | Investigative Period
2/28/58-3/19/59 |
| TITLE OF CASE

HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL, aka. | | Report made by
HERBERT D. CLOUGH, JR. | Typed By
mfw |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE

SECURITY MATTER - C | |

REFERENCES Legat, Mexico, letter to Director, 7/24/58.
 Bureau airtel, 9/10/58.
 Bureau airtel, 9/15/58.
 Legat, Mexico, letter to Director, 10/27/58.
 Report of SA CARROLL M. GARNETT, 1/27/59, Washington Field.
 Bureau letter to New York, 2/10/59.
 New York airtel to Director, 2/13/59.
 WFO airtel to New York, 2/17/59.

*Original SI
4/9/59*

ADMINISTRATIVE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF

DATE **4/3/78**

Classified by 484
Exempt from GDS, Category
1 of Declassification Indefinite

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Approved
<i>[Signature]</i> | Special Agent
in Charge | Do not write in spaces below | |
| Copies made
5 - Bureau (100-404849) (RM) | | 100-404849-63 | REC-23 |
| 3 - New York (100-109849) SUBV. CONTROL | | APR 6 1959 | EX-136 |
| REC'D - FBI | | | |

SECRET
 RECEIVED
 APR 15 1959
 U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953 O-344780

NY 100-109849

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
 2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
 3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
 4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
 5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
 6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are
-

8. ☐ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

subject is actively engaged in campaign to free husband, MORTON SOBELL, through employment with the Sobell Committee and appearances at various meetings, including those sponsored by SWP and CP clubs.

- L -

COVER PAGE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: SA HERBERT, D. CLOUGH, JR.
Date: April 2, 1959

Office: New York, New York

File Number: New York 100-109849

Bureau 100-404849

Title: HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject resides 30 Charlton St., NYC; employed by the National Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL, NYC; spoke at, and attended, numerous meetings throughout the United States during 1958 sponsored by local Sobell Committees. Subject traveled to Mexico in 1958 in an attempt to secure statements from prominent Mexican politicians that MORTON SOBELL's release to, and subsequent arrest by, United States authorities, was illegal. Subject issued passport #1269164 on 11/24/58 ostensibly for trip to England, France, and Italy, commencing 12/20/58 by air for one and one-half months duration. Informants know of no recent travel by subject; are not aware of any future travel plans of subject. CP interest reported re subject's role in NCSJMS. Statement made at CP meeting that subject is apparently enjoying basking in the limelight and running the show herself without regard for her husband's freedom.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICE

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF

DATE

DECLASSIFIED BY

4942-106/77

NY 100-109849

DETAILS:

Residence and Employment

[REDACTED] b7E

A documentation of the NCSJMS is located in the Appendix section of this report.

On February 11, 1959, [REDACTED] advised that the Sobell Committee is an organization formed after the ROSENBERG execution for the purpose of procuring the freedom of MORTON SOBELL. The national headquarters is situated in New York City at 940 Broadway. According to the informant, this is also the location of the New York City headquarters. [REDACTED] stated that there are Sobell branches in most of the larger cities and the most important of these are located in San Francisco, Milwaukee, Chicago, Philadelphia, Minneapolis, and Syracuse. U

Subject's Participation in NCSJMS Activities during 1958-1959

The following information pertains to the various activities in which the subject participated in connection with her work for the NCSJMS as reported by various informants. In some instances, the subject only attended a meeting, however, at most meetings and conferences the subject spoke of the "injustice" of her husband's conviction, and appealed for funds to continue the work of the NCSJMS to achieve its goal of causing the release of MORTON SOBELL.

Date of Activity Activity

2/26/58

Speaker at Community Church, Boston, Massachusetts

NY 100-109889

Date of

Activity

Activity

Informants who Furnish the Information Regarding the Acti

4/25/58

Speaker, Detroit
Sobell Committee,
Detroit, Michigan

4/25/58

Speaker, Wayne
University, Wesley
Foundation

6/14/58

Speaker, NCSJMS
New York meeting

6/28/58

Speaker, Chicago
Sobell Committee
dinner, Chicago

6/29/58

Speaker, Midwestern
Sobell Committee
conference St. Louis

6/18/58

Attended Emergency Civil
Liberties Committee (ECLC)
"Victory Dinner"

*documentation located Appendix Section

6/21/58

Speaker, Philadelphia
Sobell Committee meeting,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

11/2/58

Attended Los Angeles
Sobell Committee staff
meeting, Los Angeles,
California

1/17/59

Attended NCSJMS party
New York City

According to [REDACTED] MORTON SOBELL was scheduled to be transferred from Alcatraz to the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia. U b2

MORTON SOBELL

MORTON SOBELL, subject's husband, was convicted on March 29, 1951, in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, of conspiracy to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union and was sentenced on April 5, 1951, to 30 years imprisonment. He is currently serving his sentence at the Federal Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia. U

On March 31, 1958, Assistant Warden [REDACTED] United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that through mail censorship of MORTON SOBELL, the following itinerary of HELEN SOBELL was obtained: U

"Visit Sobell USP, Atlanta, March 31 and April 1, return New York April 2, plane for Mexico April 3, to San Francisco 'big meeting,' April 11, to Los Angeles for dinner April 12." U

According to Assistant Warden [REDACTED] HELEN SOBELL did visit MORTON SOBELL at the United States Penitentiary Atlanta, on March 31, 1958, and at that time expected to visit him again on April 1, 1958. U

On April 28, 1958, [REDACTED] advised a business meeting of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was held in Detroit, Michigan, on April 27, 1958, at 6 P.M. [REDACTED] advised that a report was given by one [REDACTED] the SWP, concerning the activities of the subject while subject was in Detroit, Tuesday, April 22, 1958 through Friday, April 25, 1958. According to the informant, [REDACTED] said that four-sevenths of the Detroit Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL were also members of the SWP. According to [REDACTED] they had worked hard and had done a good job for the subject. There was a meeting Tuesday, April 22, 1958, at the Central Methodist Church in Detroit at which \$209.41 had been received in donations (\$25 of which was donated by the SWP as a group). U b2

According to [REDACTED] announced that on Wednesday, April 23, 1958, the subject went to Eastern Michigan College in Ypsilanti and also to the home of [REDACTED] and spoke to the students of the University of Michigan.

On Friday, April 25, 1958, the subject spoke at the Wesley Foundation on the Wayne State University campus. Later that day, she cut a tape interview for station WEDT.

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On September 12, 1958 [redacted] advised that the subject had reportedly returned to New York on September 11, 1958, from Mexico.

On January 23, 1959, [REDACTED] Passport

NY 100-109849

Office, Department of State, made available to SA CARROLL M. GARNETT the passport file on subject which revealed the following information:

HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL was issued passport number 1269164 on November 24, 1958, in connection with contemplated one and one-half months travel to England, France and Italy. The purpose of the trip was shown as "Business and Pleasure"; the port of departure, New York City; approximate departure date, December 20, 1958. Subject planned to travel by "Pan-Am Jet." Her permanent residence is "30 Charlton Street, New York 14, New York."

Subject's passport application showed she had not previously held a passport. She planned to take another trip abroad within the next year.

This passport contained the following restrictions: "This passport is not valid for travel to the following areas under control of authorities with which the United States does not have Diplomatic Relations: Albania, Bulgaria, and those portions of China, Korea and Viet-Nam under communist control."

"This passport is not valid for Hungary."

Subject's passport application contains the following description for her:

| | |
|------------|---------------------------|
| Height | 5' 1" |
| Hair | Brown |
| Eyes | Brown |
| Occupation | "Public Relations Writer" |

The following informants advised on the dates indicated that they knew of no recent travel on the subject's part and were not aware of any future travel plans of the subject:

2/20/59
2/18/59
2/17/59
2/18/59

NY 100-109849

The informants no longer have custody of the basic documents from which the above information was obtained and they would not be available to testify.

Communist Party (CP) Interest Regarding
Subject's Role in NCSJMS

The CP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] advised that a board meeting of the Zapata Section of the CP was held on February 3, 1959, in Los Angeles, California. The informant advised that at this meeting [redacted] reported on developments in the Los Angeles Sobell Committee and its correspondence with the national staff. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was advised that the best thing to do was to remove HELEN SOBELL from leadership, and that HELEN SOBELL should play the same role as ROSE SOBELL. The informant advised that the thought was expressed that apparently HELEN SOBELL was enjoying basking in the limelight and running the show herself without regard for her husband's freedom.

b7d

APPENDIX

EMERGENCY CIVIL LIBERTIES COMMITTEE.

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee:

"Emergency Civil Liberties Committee

- "1. 'To defend the cases of Communist lawbreakers, fronts have been devised making special appeals in behalf of civil liberties and reaching out far beyond the confines of the Communist Party itself. Among these organizations are the * * * Emergency Civil Liberties Committee. When the Communist Party itself is under fire these fronts offer a bulwark of protection.'
(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 91.)"

APPENDIX (CONT'D)

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
IN THE ROSENBERG CASE (NCSJMS)

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the NCSJMS:

"1. Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell, the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case--a Communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States--was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case.' National headquarters remained at 1050 6th Avenue, New York City. Co-chairmen of the newest organization were Daniel Marshall and Joseph Brainin.

"(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, pp. 118 and 120; also cited in Annual Report for 1955, House Report 1648, January 17, 1956, originally released January 11, 1956, p. 30.)"

~~SECRET~~

APPENDIX (CONT'd)

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE,
also known as Young Socialist Forum

A confidential source advised on September 29, 1958, that the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) was formed at a meeting held October 1, 1957, at New York City, by individuals who were members of the elements formerly comprising the Young Socialist Forum in New York City. The Young Socialist Forum had been comprised of youth of various left socialist tendencies, particularly followers of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

The Statement of Principle, set forth in the YSA Constitution, stated that the YSA: 1. Favored the abolition of our present capitalistic system; 2. Advocated the replacement of this system by a socialist system; 3. Formally resolved to direct its activities toward bringing about this transition.

The stated purpose of the YSA, as set forth in the Constitution, was to bring together all young socialists in a broad, militant, independent, democratic organization.

The above source advised that the membership of the YSA, after a series of minority resignations, has become comprised almost exclusively of SWP members who follow the SWP line in YSA policies.

The headquarters of the YSA are located at 144 2nd Ave., New York City.

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~SECRET~~

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 65 DATE 4-20-59

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number

1 - Mr. Nasoa
1 - Liaison

Date: April 23, 1959

To: Mr. F. Toulia Bailey
Director
Office of Security
Department of State
515 East Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: [REDACTED] b1
Internal Security - CIA (c)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Classification

DATE 4/6/78 b1/jmt

This is for your information. (u)

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
APR 24 1959
MAILED

Classified by 4842
Exempt from GDS, Category 2+2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

REJ: [REDACTED] (10)

① - 100-404849 (Helen Sobell)

NOT RECORDED
17 APR 26 1959

127
50 APR 29 1959

TYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 109-539-274

Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey

NOTE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Helen Sobell is the wife of
Morton Sobell who was convicted of conspiracy to commit
espionage along with the Rosenbergs. She has been working
full time to gain her husband's release from the Federal
Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia. The National Committee
to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell has been cited as
a communist front by the House Committee on Un-American
Activities. (C)

Legal Attache, Ottawa

SECRET

June 15, 1959

Director, FBI (100-40849)

HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL
SECURITY MATTER - C

The Los Angeles Office has advised that information has been received that subject plans to be in Vancouver, British Columbia, from July 16, 1959, to July 21, 1959, on behalf of the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case. It is noted that subject is the wife of Morton Sobell and, ever since his conviction along with the Rosenbergs on charges of conspiracy to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union, has devoted practically all of her time in efforts to secure a new trial for Morton Sobell. (U)

1 - New York (100-109849)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF

DATE 4/16/78

NOTE: Subject on Security Index. Information regarding travel to Vancouver provided by LA 3536-S in Los Angeles airtel dated 6-4-59.

1 - 100-387835 (National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case)

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through for review)

SECRET

GDC:lmk
(8)

X-113

REC-21

100-404849

MAILED 4

JUN 15 1959

COMM-FBI

17 JUN 16 1959

62 JUN 19 1959

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-387835

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL UNR DATE 6-19-59

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number

1 - Liaison Section
1 - Mr. Had
1 - Mr. Coatsworth

SECRET

100-404849

Date: July 6, 1959

To:

Washington, D. C. (S)

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL
SECURITY MATTER - C

This Bureau has received information that the captioned subject plans to be in Vancouver, British Columbia, from July 16, 1959, to July 21, 1959, on behalf of the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case. (S)

By letter dated June 15, 1959, this information regarding subject's anticipated activity in British Columbia was forwarded to the Legal Attache at Ottawa.

1 - Ottawa

ATTENTION Legal Attache, Ottawa

Classified by 484V
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Refer to Bureau letter 6-15-59, captioned as above.

100-387835

Foreign Liaison Unit route through for review

NOTE ON YELLOW: Subject on Security Index. Information regarding visit to Canada reportedly

Bureau letter 6-15-59. (S)

GDC:fbm (9)

JUL 16 1959

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

C.C. only

MAILED 15

JUL - 6 1959

COMM-FBI

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 68 DATE 8-25-59

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~2228~~.

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 69 DATE 8-30-59

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES *of which*
page 1

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 4452

The accompanying card with the Robert R. Nathan has a Salomon Smith & the Rosenberg & Bobell name for "unavoidable." "I could not," Robert Russell says, "but the atomic scientist Dr. Harold C. Urey remarked, rather speaking the tranquility: 'You cannot tell what Morton Sobell is even supposed to have done.'"

Dr. Robert R. Nathan stated finally: "Sobell was never implicated with atomic explosion." He said that he was in the laboratory in Greenwich Village where Mrs. Sobell lives with her two children. He said that 1,000 people attended a rally for the Sobell pair. Dr. Nathan said that the audience that he thinks made Americans are just very nervous about the persons who have been charged with the administration of justice in the situation and all of our elected officials and this kind of inactivity is a betrayal of our country to the world. —

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL UNK DATE 8-26-59

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL UNR DATE 9-17-59

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number [REDACTED]

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 70 DATE 9-15-59

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL UNR DATE 9-23-59
CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES *of which*
page 2

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety under (b)(2) to the extent that the release of this information would disclose matters related solely to internal personnel rules and practices.

September 22, 1959

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Lee
1 - Mr. O'Connor

1 - Mr. Lee
1 - Mr. O'Connor

MC3JMS, cited by House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA), has twofold purpose: (1) remove Sobell from Alcatraz (in 2/58 he was transferred to Atlanta Penitentiary) and (2) obtain either his release, reduction of sentence or new trial. MC3JMS has had a program of obtaining support from prominent persons and apparently through the efforts of Helen Sobell, Sobell's wife, elicited from Steve Allen, TV personality, a promise to assist the Sobell cause in the future. Los Angeles advised that Allen, in Sobell's presence, contacted Paul V. Coates, Los Angeles news commentator, to have Sobell appear on Coates TV show; however, this request was turned down.

DeLoach _____
McGuire _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____

NOT RECORDED
47 SEP 29 1959

47 SEP 24 1959

MR. A. H. BELMONT

October 9,
1959

MR. J. BAUMGARDNER

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Onsgard
1 - Mr. Lee
1 - Mr. Coakley
1 - Mr. O'Connor
1 - Mr. Bly

Morton Sobell was convicted of espionage in 1951 as a part of the Rosenberg espionage case and is presently serving a thirty-year sentence in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia. After his incarceration, the communists formed the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell (NCSJMS). The main purpose of this committee is to secure Sobell's release, a reduction of his sentence, or a new trial. Helen Sobell, Morton Sobell's wife and a Security Index subject of our New York Office, has been utilized exclusively by the NCSJMS in furthering its programs. She has traveled throughout the United States and parts of Canada soliciting financial assistance for the NCSJMS and securing petitions and resolutions urging the release of her husband.

She has appeared before numerous legitimate civic organizations and in some instances, has won their support. She persuaded Steve Allen, the TV personality, to support her efforts on behalf of her husband.

Recently in Phoenix, Arizona, Helen Sobell was successful in persuading the Executive Committee of the Phoenix Council of Ministers to pass a resolution on behalf of her husband. The danger here goes far beyond the mere signing of the resolution since it can be expected these ministers, convinced that an injustice has been done in Morton Sobell's case, will mention this fact to their congregations. Thus, a great many people will be influenced by Helen Sobell's propaganda inasmuch as the average person places considerable reliance on a statement made by his minister.

In order to counteract the propaganda this woman is spreading, I recommend the following courses of action:

1) In a number of instances, through our coverage, we will know in advance Helen Sobell's itinerary as well as the

Tolson
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Tele. Room
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Gandy

100-404849 (Helen Sobell)
100-3-104 (Counterintelligence)

NOT RECORDED
102 OCT 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Re: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

identities of civic groups she is scheduled to contact. We could arrange through our friends in the newspaper field to have the local press in the towns where Helen Sobell is to appear give publicity to the fact she will be there and run a true account of the Sobell case. This will alert the civic groups involved and would diminish the effectiveness of Helen Sobell's work. This could be done in such a manner that our interests in the matter would not be revealed.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Helen Sobell would appear in a certain city before a particular civic group. He could also furnish the true facts of the Sobell case, which is a matter of public record to his contact.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the local civic organization would like to have all of the facts before it made a decision and that he would be glad to provide them with the true facts of the Morton Sobell case. It is felt that many bona fide civic organizations, if they were in possession of all the facts, would not endorse Helen Sobell's activities on behalf of her husband. This would be a most effective method of neutralizing Helen Sobell's activities and the FBI would never be brought into the picture.

I have discussed both of the methods outlined above with Mr. Wick of the Crime Records Division and he was of the opinion that both of the afore-mentioned methods could be arranged through appropriate contacts. It would depend upon the particular situation as to which method we would use.

ACTION:

-If you approve, we will use the above-mentioned approaches in the future when we have knowledge of Helen Sobell's itinerary and the identity of civic groups she will address. A separate memorandum will be prepared on each situation.

1 - & 2 to New York
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Coakley
1 - Mr. O'Connor

SAC, New York (100-107111)

October 16, 1959

Director, FBI (100-387835)

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C**

The Bureau plans to take steps to counteract the continued limited success of Helen Sobell among certain legitimate civic organizations and groups in furtherance of captioned organization's aims to assist her husband, Morton Sobell. It is felt effective steps can be taken to neutralize her work through certain Bureau contacts if her future itinerary and groups she plans to contact are made known to the Bureau in sufficient time to take positive action.

New York as office of origin in both captioned matter and the security investigation of Helen Sobell, New York file 100-109849, should remain particularly alert to Sobell's future travels throughout the United States on behalf of captioned organization. New York should consider giving specific assignments to confidential informants who may be in a position to develop the desired data. Promptly notify the Bureau whenever her itinerary becomes known and thereafter set out specific leads to interested offices to discreetly ascertain additional details of her plans, particularly the identities of legitimate groups she plans to contact. The success of this program depends entirely upon the prompt development and transmittal to the Bureau of Sobell's future itinerary so that effective countermeasures can be instituted.

Los Angeles should consider utilizing [redacted] and other informants within limits of security in furtherance of this operation. It is noted Sobell planned to return to Los Angeles during the period 10/24-26/59 and has been concentrating her efforts in the Los Angeles area during recent months.

Each office should transmit promptly whenever the necessary information is obtained.

2 - Los Angeles (100-41648)

1 - 100-40849 (Helen Sobell)
SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE 2.

JOC:ras:ff 52 OCT 22 1959
(10)

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
OCT 18 1959
MAILED

NOT RECORDED
OCT 20 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SAC, New York

RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

100-387835

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Memorandum Baumgardner to Belmont, 10/9/59, in captioned matter, which was approved by the Director, recommended positive steps be considered to neutralize Helen Sobell's efforts to spread propaganda favorable to her husband among unsuspecting nonsubversive civic-type groups. Before we can institute any action her itinerary must be secured in advance and for that reason this communication has been prepared.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

A. M. Belmont

DATE: November 3, 1959

FROM: P. J. Baumgardner

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. J. P. Lee
- 1 - Mr. O'Connor

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Los Angeles airtel 10/29/59 advised Helen Sobell, wife of Morton Sobell convicted in the Rosenberg case, was interviewed on the Dan Lundberg TV Show, Los Angeles, on 10/25/59. Topic of program was "Should Prisoners be Allowed Connubial Visits?" She gave a two-minute summary of husband's trial and conviction and then took affirmative position regarding connubial visits. (Earlier this year she had written Bennett of Bureau of Prisons requesting such visits but Bennett denied her request.) She answered questions on topic from panel, one member of which was A. L. Wirin, American Civil Liberties Union attorney. Wirin attempted to question her on husband's case, but Lundberg objected and restricted program to announced topic.

On 10/28/59 taped interview of Mrs. Sobell presented on TV news program of Lew Irwin, Los Angeles. Irwin announced he was giving her a chance to tell her side of issue. Mrs. Sobell stated her husband convicted in atmosphere of "McCarthyism" and then rehashed all the old claims of her husband being brutally kidnaped from Mexico, etc., stating it had been arranged by "FBI and Roy Cohn." Irwin noted he had received number of phone calls regarding his comments on Sobell case the previous evening and thanked those who called, stating "it helps."

Los Angeles airtel 10/30/59 advised Los Angeles Sobell Committee (LASC) is attempting to purchase copies of Lundberg's and Irwin's shows. On 10/29/59 Irwin told LASC organizer his job appeared in jeopardy as result of Mrs. Sobell's appearance but he would go ahead and back the LASC. Appears National Sobell Committee intends producing record for Christmas season with Helen Sobell telling her story on one side and a Miss Vanzetti, sister of Vanzetti of the famous Sacco-Vanzetti case, speaking in Italian on the other side. Jacket of record would contain a translation of Miss Vanzetti's talk.

Bufiles indicate that Lundberg and Irwin have in the past utilized their programs to air controversial issues similar to the Sobell case.

Enclosure

100-387835

100-387835

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100-387835

NOT RECORDED

NOV 10 1959

NOV 10 1959

NOV 10 1959

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NOV 9 1959

NOV 9 1959

Memo for Mr. Belmont

RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
100-387835

[REDACTED]

Captioned organization is under active investigation as communist front organization and copies of reports concerning investigation of it are furnished Department on continuing basis for Department's consideration pursuant to Executive Order 10450 and Internal Security Act of 1950.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the attached memorandum to the Director of the Bureau of Prisons with a copy for Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division, containing data concerning Mrs. Sobell's television appearances be approved and transmitted.

JP *SM* *W* *6/4*

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL UNR DATE 11-18-59

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number [REDACTED]

SAC, New York (100-107111)

January 11, 1960

Director, FBI (100-387815)

Orig. & 2 to New York

- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Coakley
- 1 - Mr. O'Connor

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rebulet 10/15/59.

As you are aware, there has not been an opportunity to date to institute the program against Helen Sobell and her work for captioned committee which was the subject of rebulet. The Bureau is still keenly interested in the possibilities of this action and still feels that effective steps can be taken to neutralize her work.

Each office should advise the Bureau by return mail of current information indicating Helen Sobell's itinerary insofar as this itinerary is known. New York should remain particularly alert to any information which would shed light on her future activities.

2 - Los Angeles (100-41648)

(1) - 100-404849 (Helen Sobell)

YELLOW
DUPLICATE

JAN 11

MAILED

JOC:rs

(10)

100-404849

NOT RECORDED
158 JAN 12 1960

58 JAN 14 1960

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-404849

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 71 DATE 2-27-60

CONSISTING OF 32 PAGES *of which*
page 15

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number [REDACTED]

FILE # 100-404849

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

SERIAL 71 DATE 2-29-60

CONSISTING OF 32 PAGES of which
page C.D.E.F.G.H. 4,7

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FILE # 100-404849
SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL
SERIAL 71 DATE 2-29-60
CONSISTING OF 32 PAGES *of which*
page 23

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety under (b)(2) to the extent that the release of this information would disclose matters related solely to internal personnel rules and practices.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECRET

| | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| Reporting Office
NEW YORK | Office of Origin
NEW YORK | Date
2/29/60 | Investigative Period
1/21 - 2/18/60 |
| TITLE OF CASE
HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL, aka | | Report made by
SA CARLYLE W. MILLER | Typed By
mbk |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - C | |

REFERENCE

Report of SA HERBERT D. CLOUGH, Jr.
dated 4/2/59, at New York.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CRANDALL

DATE _____

Classified By 9842
Exempt from GDS, Category 7
Date of Declassification Indefinite
In Charge 677

Do not write in spaces below

Abstract

Cooling mode:

5-Bureau (100-404849) (RM)
3-New York (100-109849)

REC-42

EX 105

MAR 1 1960

REC

52 MAR 31 1968

NY 100-109849

[REDACTED]

The Special Agents who observed the subject during the fisur conducted in Silver Spring, Maryland, on 6/4/59, were PAUL E. MORRISON and CARROLL M. GARNETT. ✓

No recent information has been received regarding any possible future travel plans of the subject. ✓

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - b7d

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7d

[REDACTED] ✓

[REDACTED] b7d

[REDACTED]

Cover Page

- B -

NY 100-10984

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are

7.

8. ☐ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)
subject is actively engaged in campaign to free husband, MORTON SOBELL, through employment with the SOBELL Committee and appearances at various meetings, including those sponsored by CP Clubs, as well as her continued associations with known CP members.

11. ☒ Subject's SI card ☒ is ☐ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ His activities ☒ do ☐ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

Cover Page

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

SECRET

Copy to:

Report of
Date:SA CARLYLE W. MILLER
2/29/60

Office: New York

File Number:

New York 100-109849

Bureau 100-404849

Title:

HELEN LEVITOV SOBELL

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject, the wife of MORTON SOBELL, continues to reside at 30 Charlton Street, New York City, and is employed by the National Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL, 940 Broadway, New York City. During 1959 subject participated in numerous activities of local SOBELL committees in Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and New York, and reportedly made a trip to Vancouver, British Columbia, where she was interviewed over the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

Subject's associations with CP members and interest expressed by CP members regarding her activities.

- C -

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S)

DATE

4/6/78

SECRET

Classified by 484
Exempt from GDS, Category
Date of Declassification Indefinite

10/27/96

NY 100-109849

DETAILS:

I. RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

[REDACTED]

A characterization of the National Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL (hereinafter referred to as the NCSJMS) is contained in the Appendix hereto.

On February 11, 1959, [REDACTED] advised that the SOBELL Committee is an organization formed after the ROSENBERG execution for the purpose of procuring the freedom of MORTON SOBELL. The National Headquarters is situated in New York City at 940 Broadway. According to the informant, this is also the location of the New York City Headquarters.

[REDACTED] stated that there are SOBELL branches in most of the larger cities and the most important of these are located in San Francisco, Milwaukee, Chicago, Philadelphia, Minneapolis and Syracuse.

MORTON SOBELL is the subject's husband and was convicted on March 29, 1951, in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, New York City, of conspiracy to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union and on April

NY 100-109849

5, 1951, was sentenced to a term of thirty years imprisonment. He is currently serving his sentence at the Federal Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia. ✓

II. ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF THE NCSJMS

A. Participation in Meetings and Conferences

The following is a list of meetings and functions of the NCSJMS in which HELEN SOBELL is reported by various informants to have participated. It is noted that in some instances, the subject only attended the meeting; however, at most of these meetings she reportedly was a speaker and spoke of the "injustice" of her husband's conviction and appealed for more funds to enable the NCSJMS to continue its efforts to have MORTON SOBELL released.

Date
of
Activity

Activity

February 21, 1959

Speaker, Chicago
SOBELL Committee,
Chicago, Illinois

May 22, 1959

Speaker, Lower
Bucks County Committee
to Secure Justice
for MORTON SOBELL,
Southampton,
Pennsylvania

NY 100-109849

Date
of
Activity

Activity

June 19, 1959

Speaker, NCSJMS,
New York City

June 26, 1959

Speaker, Philadelphia
SOBELL Committee,
Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania

August 13, 1959

Speaker, Los Angeles
SOBELL Committee,
Fresno, California

August 25, 1959

Speaker, Staff
Meeting of the Los
Angeles SOBELL
Committee, Malibu,
California

September 8, 1959

Attended Staff Meeting
of the Los Angeles
SOBELL Committee,
Los Angeles, California

September 15, 1959

Attended Meeting of
Los Angeles SOBELL
Committee, Los Angeles,
California

NY 100-109849

Date
of
Activity

Activity

October 7, 1959

Speaker, NCSJMS,
New York City

November 7, 1959

Speaker, Eastern
Regional Work
Meeting, NCSJMS,
New York City

November 8, 1959

Attended Eastern
Regional Work Meeting,
NCSJMS, New York
City

December 10, 1959

Speaker, NCSJMS,
Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania

December 12, 1959

Speaker, Lower
Buck County Committee
to Secure Justice
for MORTON SOBELL,
Levittown, Pennsylvania

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

III. OTHER ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF
OF MORTON SOBELL

A. Appeals

On January 14, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished a

NY 100-109849

copy of the January, 1959, mimeographed letter on the letterhead of the Chicago SOBELL Committee. It was related in this letter that almost 100 eminent Chicagoans had sent an appeal to President EISENHOWER on behalf of MORTON SOBELL during December, 1958. The letter went on to report that a copy of the appeal had been sent to United States Pardon Attorney REED COZART, with whom the subject, her mother-in-law, ROSE SOBELL, and Attorney MARSHALL PERLIN had an unprecedented and unexpected meeting.

[redacted] on March 4, 1959, furnished a newsletter printed on the letterhead stationery of the Chicago SOBELL Committee, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 1301, Chicago, Illinois, which was dated March 1, 1959.

This letter reflected that HELEN SOBELL had addressed a recent party held by the Chicago SOBELL Committee and reported on activity in widely separated parts of America. The newsletter further revealed that an independent letter signed by a group of eminent Americans was being sent to noted individuals through the country asking that they participate in a Commission of Inquiry to state objectively the ROSENBERG - SOBELL Case.

[redacted]

NY 100-109849

A characterization of the National Lawyers Guild is contained in the Appendix hereto.

B. Publicity

The June 23, 1959, issue of the "Morning Freiheit", on page two, columns one and two, contained an article entitled, "Big Mass Meeting Demands Freedom for Morton Sobell." This article stated that on June 19, 1959, more than 1200 people, at a meeting in Webster Hall in New York City, unanimously supported the demand that MORTON SOBELL, who has been languishing behind bars for nine years already, of a thirty year jail sentence should be freed.

NY 100-109849

The article went on to state that "On Helen Sobell's appeal for contributions for the 'Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell', the audience contributed generously so that it could continue the fight for immediate liberation."

A characterization of the "Morning Freiheit" is contained in the Appendix hereto:

[redacted] advised on July 31, 1959, that a meeting of the Los Angeles SOBELL Committee was held on July 28, 1959, at 462 N. Western Avenue, Suite 3, Los Angeles, California. According to the informant, a letter from HELEN SOBELL was read at this meeting in which she told of a very successful trip to Vancouver, British Columbia, during which she had an hour long radio interview on the Canadian Broadcasting Company. The letter went on to state that the interview had been taped and that SOBELL hoped it would be broadcasted throughout the country.

[redacted] advised on May 28, 1959, that on May 22, 1959, HELEN SOBELL appeared on the radio program of LOU HAHN over station WBCB, Levittown, Pennsylvania. According to the informant, HAHN interviewed the subject who attacked government witnesses HARRY GOLD and MAX ELITCHER.

42A [redacted] b2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On page three of the October 26, 1959, issue of the "National Guardian" there appeared a feature article entitled, "An Interview with HELEN SOBELL, 'If Every Guardian Reader Sent a Letter in which the writer reported that in view of the easing of national tensions, HELEN SOBELL was hopeful of her husband's release from prison. The article recounted the efforts of HELEN SOBELL to secure a conjugal visit with MORTON SOBELL and of her visiting members of Congress in order to obtain support for her husband's case. The article stated that HELEN SOBELL would appear on the DAN LUNDBERG television interviewing program in Los Angeles on October 25, 1959, and added that a nation-wide campaign of letters to the President was planned for the holiday season. U

crit.

A characterization of the "National Guardian" is contained in the appendix hereto. U

IV. COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)
INTEREST REGARDING THE
SUBJECT'S ROLE IN THE
NCSJMS

The CP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[REDACTED] advised on September 21, 1959, that at a meeting of the County Committee at the San Bernardino - Riverside County CP held on September

NY 100-109849

16, 1959, in Elsinore, California, [REDACTED] who was identified by the informant as a CP member, reported on a dinner which had been held a short time prior in Elsinore, California, at which the subject spoke. According to [REDACTED] announced that a total of \$177.00 had been collected at the affair and that about half of that sum was to go to the Committee for Protection of Foreign Born. U b7d

The American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. U

[REDACTED] advised that on this occasion, [REDACTED] mentioned the recent articles which subject had written regarding her desire to stay with her husband in prison in order to have a baby, and [REDACTED] commented that this would be a good talking point to non-political people. U b2d

Regarding the dinner in Elsinore, California, at which the subject spoke, [REDACTED] advised on September 15, 1959, that the subject addressed a dinner meeting on September 13, 1959, held at 114 Poe Street, Elsinore, California, under the sponsorship of the Elsinore Press Committee. U b7d

[REDACTED]

NY 100-109849

V. OTHER ASSOCIATIONS OF
SUBJECT

A. Emma Lazarus Jewish Women's
Clubs (ELJWC)

A characterization of the ELJWC is
contained in the Appendix hereto.

[REDACTED] advised on September 2, 1959,
that on September 1, 1959, HELEN SOBELL spoke at a
meeting of the ELJWC at 7213 Beverly Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California. According to [REDACTED] the
subject stated that she hoped to appear on the PAUL COATES
television show in order to present her husband's
case [REDACTED]

USA
b7d

NY 100-109849

D. CARLETON BEALS

[REDACTED] on February 26, 1959, furnished a mimeographed leaflet which contained a statement on the MORTON SOBELL case by CARLETON BEALS. This leaflet described BEALS as an author, lecturer, authority on Mexico and the Caribbean and former Consultant to the United States Government on Mexican Affairs. U

The leaflet goes on to quote a letter allegedly written by BEALS to the subject in which he calls MORTON SOBELL's conviction, "a brazen denial of elementary rights" and "so absurd it is incredible." U

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] on March 26, 1959, advised that on March 21, 1959, the subject attended a reception

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given in her paper at the home of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] According to the informant, approximately sixty-five persons were in attendance at this affair, the main purpose of which was to raise money on behalf of MORTON SOBELL. U b7d

[REDACTED] on June 27, 1957, identified [REDACTED] as a member of the CP. U b7d

P. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7d

On Thursday, June 4, 1959, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed the subject at the residence of [REDACTED] U b7d

On February 26, 1953, [REDACTED] identified [REDACTED] as members of the CP at that time. U b7d

On February 23, 1955, [REDACTED] stated that he had no knowledge that [REDACTED] was a member of the CP but that [REDACTED] did support CP policies. U b7d

APPENDIX

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EMMA LAZARUS FEDERATION OF JEWISH WOMEN'S CLUBS

"The Jewish Fraternalist" dated October, 1947, self identified as the official publication of the Jewish People's Fraternal Order (JPFO) of the International Workers Order (IWO), on page 6, contained an article which reflected that the Emma Lazarus Division (ELD) of the JPFO was to hold its first national convention in New York City on November 15 and 16, 1947, after having been first established at a National Women's Conference called three years previously by the JPFO. U

The "Morning Freiheit" on January 25, 1951, contained a report on the National Convention of the ELD of the JPFO which took place in New York City on January 20, and 21, 1951. At this convention it was noted the ELD changed its name to Emma Lazarus Federation of Jewish Women's Clubs (ELF) and adopted a new constitution. U

The address of the national office of the ELF is 160 Fifth Avenue, Room 911, New York City. U

Both the IWO and the JPFO have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. U

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, to supersede Guide published on May 14, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "Morning Freiheit:" U

- "1. A 'Communist Yiddish daily.'
(Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE, Congressional Record, September 24, 1942, p. 7686.) U
- "2. 'The Freiheit has been one of the rankest organs of Communist propaganda in this country for almost a quarter of a century.'
(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 75.)" U

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"MORNING FREIHEIT"

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(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 75.)" U

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COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case'"

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

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NATIONAL GUARDIAN OR WEEKLY GUARDIAN ASSOCIATES

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian" U

- "1. 'Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p. 12)" U

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NATIONAL LAWYERS' GUILD

SECRET

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, contains the following concerning the National Lawyers' Guild:

"National Lawyers' Guild

- "1. Cited as a Communist front.
(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 149.)
- "2. Cited as a Communist front which 'is the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions' and which 'since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 3123 on the National Lawyers Guild, September 21, 1950, originally released September 17, 1950.)
- "3. 'To defend the cases of Communist lawbreakers, fronts have been devised making special appeals in behalf of civil liberties and reaching out far beyond the confines of the Communist Party itself. Among these organizations are the * * * National Lawyers' Guild. When the Communist Party itself is under fire these offer a bulwark of protection.'
(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 91.)"

SECRET

1 - Mr. Coakley
1 - Mr. O'Connor

SAC, New York (100-107111)

March 31, 1960

Director, FBI (100-387835)

**COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950**

Re Los Angeles airtel 3-23-60 in captioned matter.

Advise by return mail whether any additional details concerning plans of captioned organization to organize a delegation of clergymen to go to Washington during November, 1960, with a plea to President Eisenhower for clemency for Sobell has come to the attention of your office. You should attempt to determine the identities of the ministers who will comprise this delegation, if one is actually organized. Alert your sources to this information and instruct that any data received by them should be promptly furnished your office for transmittal to the Bureau.

Any information which may come to your attention reflecting upon the forthcoming Summit meeting of the heads of the United States, Russia and other countries which may result in a plea on behalf of Morton Sobell should likewise be furnished the Bureau in memorandum form suitable for dissemination, eight copies being furnished the Bureau.

Remain particularly alert for any information that Helen Sobell is planning to travel to Paris during the time of the Summit meeting. Data concerning her travels in this regard should be transmitted in memorandum form, eight copies to the Bureau, under her individual case caption with a copy designated for instant file.

100-404849 (H. Sobell)

NOT RECORDED

178 APR 4 1960

YELLOW
DUPLICATE

MAR 31 1960

MAILED

LOC:NOT

(6)

61 APR 6 1960